

# Reclaim Education

Notes on the global struggle

## Dublin: Gardai attacks Demonstration for Free Education

On November 3rd the Union of Students Ireland (USI) called for a demonstration against an increase in registration fees (£3,000) for university students. In the end up to 40,000 people flooded the streets. Students from Free Education for Everyone (FEE) and the Students in Solidarity (SIS) network issued a call for a clearly visible left-wing presence at the demonstration calling for



free access to education for all! They understood their block as part of the "Global Wave". More than 2,000 people made up the "Left Block" and joined a breakaway from the main demonstration, which first headed to the Irish Parliament before going to the Department of Finance. About 40 students staged a sit-in inside the lobby. After some time police managed to force every-

one out of the building, after doing so they attacked by riot police (Gardai) the crowd in front of the ministry using shields, batons, dogs and horses. Several protesters suffered head injuries, one student was knocked unconscious. A few were arrested. One week later about 700 people took to the streets of Dublin to protest the police attack.

The next protests against fees have been announced for November 18th. *for further details:* [www.free-education.info](http://www.free-education.info)

## London: 50,000 resisting the Privatisation of Higher Education

About 50,000 people from across the UK came together for a demonstration in London to protest plans to massively cut public spending and the tripling of tuition fees (£9,000 per year). Hundreds arrived by bus from

as far as Scotland, travelling a whole day to get to the capital.

The cuts are expected to hit the arts and humanities hardest, as funding for science, medicine and engineering is likely to be protected. Faculties that

are unable to attract third party sponsorships are likely to be threatened with closure. Only the individual and society at large, but no company nor the state have an interest to promote critical sciences. At the same time students are put under increasing pressure to study

something which has a high "market value" (on the labour market), so they are more likely to be able to pay back their debts. Towards the end of the demonstration thousands of protesters took over the headquarters of the Conservative Party (Tory), the Millbank Tower. Fires were lit in front of the building, eggs were thrown and windows were smashed. Hundreds went inside and occupied the place for half a day. A group occupied the roof top and released a statement warning that "this is only the beginning".

Police forces were totally overwhelmed by the energy and determination. Nonetheless there were some scuffles and in the end 14 people had to be taken to hospital. Towards the end of the day remaining protesters were kettled by police forces in front of the building. Many were hand-

cuffed, 35 people were arrested for a range of offences, including criminal damage and trespass. Currently groups across the UK are preparing for a day of action on

November 24th.

*Details on the website of the "National Campaign Against Fees and Cuts" (NCAFC):* [www.anticuts.com](http://www.anticuts.com)



demonstration in London

### About this newsletter

This newsletter is part of the communication infrastructure of the independent platform "International Student Movement" (ISM). The ISM is being used and shaped by education activists and groups around the world who are struggling against the increasing privatisation of public education and for free emancipatory education for all.

This newsletter is the result of voluntary work done by a few individuals who are passionate about this issue. The positions expressed are not in any way representative for any group or the "International Student Movement" as a whole.

For further details:

website: [www.emancipating-education-for-all.org](http://www.emancipating-education-for-all.org)

contact: [united.for.education@gmail.com](mailto:united.for.education@gmail.com)

# November 17th - a memorable day

November 17 marks the International Students' Day. The date commemorates the anniversary of the 1939 Nazi storming of the University of Prague after demonstrations against the occupation of Czechoslovakia. More than 1,200 students were taken and sent to

concentration camps; and nine students and professors were executed without trial on November 17.

The International Students' Day was first marked in 1941 in London by the International Students' Council and the tradition has been kept up by the successor International Union of Students, which seems to have dissolved in the past few years as well.

This year on this November 17 will also be a highlight of the "Global Wave of Action for Education". The "Global Wave" kicked off on October 7 and already saw massive protests for free education in Austria, Italy, the Ukraine and U.S.A. among others. It is being coordinated on the independent platform "International Student Move-

ment" and will see protests against the increasing privatisation of education and for free emancipatory education for all at least until the end of november around the world. The "Global Day of Action" unites all the protest actions on November 17 linked to the "Global Wave of Action for Education". Check out the box on the left side for some of the protests

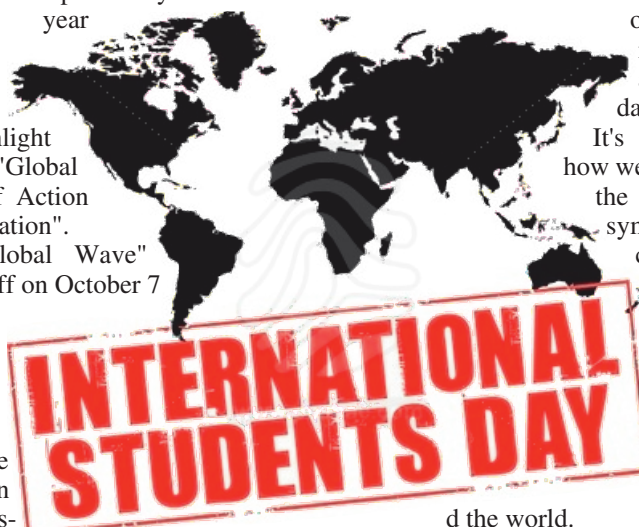
on this memorable day.

It's crazy how we all face the same symptoms caused by the current economic system around

d the world.

It's about time that we start acting together!!

~ one world - one struggle ~



## ~ Global Day of Action ~

\* Monrovia, Liberia: various groups are organising a rally

\* Lisbon, Portugal: student bodies across the country are mobilising for a demonstration in the capital

\* Philippines: League of Filipino Students together with many other groups are calling for walk-outs

\* Italy: various groups and organisations call for demonstrations across the country

\* Germany: demonstrations in various cities, such as Gießen, Hildesheim, Osnabrück and Munich (incl. general assembly) + flashmobs in Bremen

\* Skopje, Rep. Macedonia: installment on campus, a flashmob and a party

\* Poland: Demokratyczne Zrzeszenie Studenckie calls for flashmobs in about 10 cities

\* California, U.S.A.: actions to prevent the regents meeting at the University of California through a statewide demonstration among others

\* Banner actions for this day are expected in Yogyakarta (Indonesia) and Ottawa (Canada).

Send your reports to [united.for.education@gmail.com](mailto:united.for.education@gmail.com) for more details: [www.emancipating-education-for-all.org](http://www.emancipating-education-for-all.org)

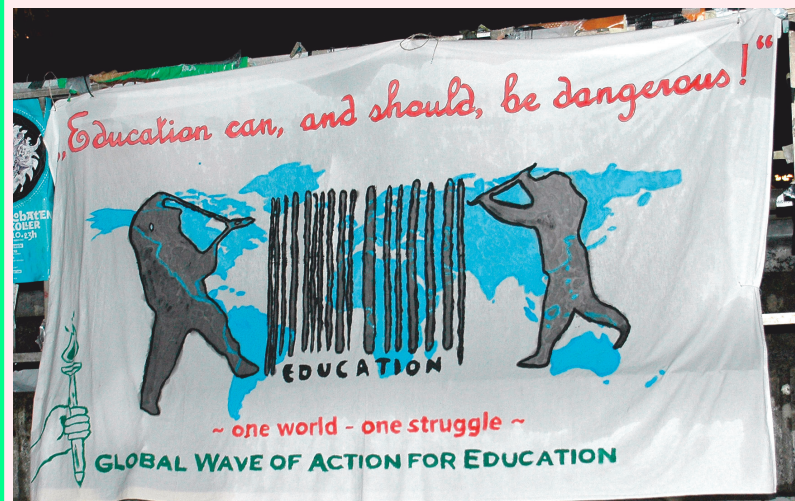


learning unit no 42315

## Short notes

### November 1st

A group of activists at the University of Marburg (Germany) hang a banner right at the Faculty of Social Sciences to inform students about the ongoing "Global Wave". In the same context the group is preparing the "1st Marburg Forum for Education", which will take place inside the faculty and consists of presentations, discussions, a film room and workshops as well as a concert with four bands in the evening of November 20th.



details: [www.bildungsstreik-marburg.de](http://www.bildungsstreik-marburg.de)

### November 11th

For the second time the anarcho-syndicalist student labour union "Direct Action" and the "Foundation of Regional Initiatives" organised a protest as part of the "Global Wave" against the commercialisation of education. This time hundreds of students gathered for a rally in front of the Ministry of Education and Science.



details: [www.direct-action.org.ua](http://www.direct-action.org.ua)